

TRIBUTE TO DON BYE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Bye of Duluth, Minnesota.

Don has rendered long, distinguished, and dedicated service to the City of Duluth, Minnesota's 8th Congressional District, and all of Northern Minnesota. For more than a quarter century, he has served Northern Minnesota in numerous ways through his multifaceted political and community activism.

In particular, I wish to note that Don Bye has completed over a quarter century of service as Chairman of the 8th Congressional District's Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DEL) party and is now entering his 27th year in that capacity. That makes him the longest continuously serving Chairman of any of Minnesota's eight Congressional District DFL committees. I know I am joined by DLFers throughout our district in saying a heartfelt thanks to Don for his tireless, selfless service. Don Bye's greatest contribution has been to show people how to work together. He has brought together individuals with diverse and sometimes contentious positions through his dedication, hard work, and diplomacy. In large part because of his efforts, the 8th District DFL Party has a cohesiveness that is envied by other political groups in the State of Minnesota.

When redistricting was completed following the 1990 census, Don moved quickly to contact county unit chairs from the newly added sections of Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. He made sure that people from Sheburne and Benton counties felt welcome in their new Congressional District and included them early on in activities of the 8th District unit, including important leadership positions.

Don Bye has been a practicing attorney for more than 30 years. He assisted numerous clients in the areas of labor and employment law, public sector labor law, employment discrimination and personal injury law. He was a Member of the Minnesota State Board of Governors from 1989–1992.

Don Bye was instrumental in starting two programs that affected thousands of people in Duluth: the Share Food Drive and Kids Voting USA. In 1982, Don has an idea for a citywide effort to benefit those less fortunate, known as the Share Food Drive. Don recruited a staff person to organize the new program, and enlisted volunteers from the Duluth area. One weekend a year, boy scouts, union members, and other volunteers go door-to-door collecting food items and cash from Duluth residents. Local trucking companies donate the use of trucks, union members volunteer to drive the trucks, and church organizations offer the use of buildings to assist in the effort. The Share Food Drive generates 20,000 to 40,000 pounds of food a year for the Duluth Food Shelf.

Don Bye knows the future of our country lies in the hands of America's youth, which inspired him to initiate the Kids Voting USA project in Duluth—the first community in Minnesota to participate in Kids Voting USA. Don also served on the original organizing committee. Don and his fellow volunteers, by donating their time and money, made Duluth's Kids

Voting USA project a model for the nation. He brought people together and got them excited about the idea of giving school children the chance to participate in the electoral process on Election Day. Under this project, children can pick up a ballot at the polls and vote at their own booth at the same time that the parents are casting their official ballots. Local schools also participate by exposing students to the political process in their social studies and civics classes.

Six thousands school children in Duluth participated in Kids Voting USA in 1994, the first year of the program. By 1996, 31,000 children in ten communities in Northern Minnesota had joined in exercising the privilege enjoyed by millions of American citizens—casting a ballot for candidates for elective public office. Democracy will benefit in the years to come from young people inspired so early in their lives by this unique opportunity to participate in the election process.

I am proud and honored to share with my colleagues this brief, but deserved tribute to Don Bye, who has given so much of himself to enrich the lives of others and to serve his community.

HONORING COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
OF ELGIN'S DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Susan Rakow, the recipient of this year's Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin's Distinguished Service Award.

The Award is sponsored by the Cosmopolitan Club of the City of Elgin, Illinois, and Ms. Rakow is truly worthy of this honor. She has spent countless hours serving the community of Elgin in a variety of roles, and her contributions have been many.

Honored by the Altrusa International Club of Elgin with its Woman of the Year Award in 1997, and by the YWCA with its Marjorie Leonard Community Service Award in 1988, Ms. Rakow has served on the boards of the Jayne Shover Easter Seal Center, the Elgin Symphony, and the Sherman Hospital Auxiliary. She has also been active with Elgin U-46 public schools, serving both as a substitute teacher and as a member of the Instructional Council, has served as President of the Elgin Enrichment Series for several years and has been active in her local church.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin, Illinois in my district on their selection, and urge you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Susan Rakow for her years of service to her community and for her selection as this year's recipient of the Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin's Distinguished Service Award.

TRIBUTE TO HUBERT "DUDER" DUDERSTADT

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hubert "Duder" Duderstadt.

Duder was a child immigrant from Germany. He came to this country with almost nothing and was a classic example of the success immigrants represent to this nation and what they have added to the culture we all enjoy today.

Duder was an example of what hard work and clean living will do.

Married to the same woman, Alberta, for 56 years, raising three successful children and achieving ownership of his own farm were measures of such success.

He clearly fulfilled the Will Rogers comment "I never met a man I didn't like," and it was always a pleasure to run into Duder. He was an accomplished farmer and wine maker and greatly appreciated by the community.

Always ready to do his part for the community, civic club, school, church, or profession, he never failed to pitch in.

He demonstrated by example what it means to be a Christian, good citizen, successful farmer, husband, and father.

He will be remembered, as we say in Gillett, Arkansas, as "a good man."

A TRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY COALITION PROJECT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and dedication of a group of outstanding teachers, staff, and other individuals to the students of San Bernardino County, California. On May 12th, the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools will honor some of the finest teachers in California at a Celebration of Excellence, a dinner and recognition program honoring the work of the Community Coalition project.

The Community Coalition is a countywide partnership project established to respond to the needs of public education through collaborative partnerships. As a result of this effort, successful programs have been put in place for San Bernardino County students in the areas of literacy, technology, school safety and career preparation. Clearly, the success of this project is tied directly to the teachers, staff and other partners who have worked diligently on this effort within the last three years.

The teachers who will be honored for their work with early literacy include Diane Harlan, Celeste Danjou, Dawn Fletcher, Sue Rhoades, Mary Gee, Terry Rogers, Audrey Howard, Tine Pelletier, Donna Libutti, Luanne Rhodes, Patty Dipaolo, Audrey Folden, Helen Rockett, Hester Turpin, Ava Gonick, Susan Birrell, Vickie Holman, Aleen Massey, Liz Fragua, Cathy Richardson, Joan Carey, Sue Cornell, Lynne Merryfield, Arlene Mistretta, Janie Piereson, Darwin Ruhle, Iris Tramp, Denie Cates-